

Amendments to the claims:

Please cancel claims 24-26 and amend claims 21-23, 27 as follows:

Claim 1 (withdrawn): A double locking mortise joint comprising:

(a) a first member having:

- i) a first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of said first member, said first mortise having:
  - 1. a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of said first member;
  - 2. a gusset body having a substantially triangular shape, the gusset top serving as one side of the triangular shape;
  - 3. a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top, said head bottom is shorter in length than said gusset top;
  - 4. a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of said first member and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;
- ii) a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) a second member having:

- i) a second mortise having two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other, and a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;
- ii) a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

whereby said first member and said second member are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at the first mortise and the second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein said first mortise further comprises a first mortise corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and at least one of said two mortise corners is rounded.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint of claim 1, wherein both of said two mortise corners are rounded.

Claim 6 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint of claim 1, wherein said first member is a table leg, and said second member is a corner of a tabletop.

Claim 7 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint of claim 6, wherein said first member further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other.

Claim 8 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint of claim 7, wherein said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature.

Claim 9 (withdrawn): A double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections the joint comprising:

(a) a table leg having:

- i) a first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of said table leg, said first mortise having:
  - 1. a gusset body having a substantially triangular shape;
  - 2. a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of said table leg;
  - 3. a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top and said head bottom is shorter in length than said gusset top;
  - 4. a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of said table leg and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;
- ii) a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise

end;

(b) a tabletop edge having:

- i) a second mortise having two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other, and a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;
- ii) a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

wherein said table leg and said tabletop edge are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at the first mortise and the second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein three or more of said joint support a tabletop without any further supporting structural members or connections existing below a horizontal plane which lies at the joining of the first mortise and second mortise, each table leg of each joint being independently and separately removable from every other table leg.

Claim 10 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 9, wherein said first mortise further comprises a first mortise corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and at least one of said two mortise corners is rounded.

Claim 11 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 10, wherein both of said two mortise corners are rounded.

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 9, wherein the table leg has a height dimension longer than both a width and depth dimension of the table leg combined.

Claim 13 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 9, wherein the table leg further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other.

Claim 14 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 13, wherein said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature.

Claim 15 (withdrawn): A double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections the joint comprising:

(a) a table leg having:

i) a first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of said table leg, said first mortise having:

1. a gusset body having a substantially triangular shape;
2. a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of said table leg;
3. a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top, said head bottom is shorter in length than said gusset top;
4. a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of said table leg and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;

ii) a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) a tabletop edge having:

i) a second mortise having two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other, and a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;

ii) a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

wherein said table leg and said tabletop edge are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at the first mortise and the second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said

second contact surface, and

wherein the joint provides support and stabilization without any additional support pieces.

Claim 16 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 15, wherein said first mortise further comprises a first mortise corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and at least one of said two mortise corners is rounded.

Claim 17 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 16, wherein both of said two mortise corners are rounded.

Claim 18 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 15, wherein the table leg has a height dimension longer than both a width and depth dimension of the table leg combined.

Claim 19 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 15, wherein the table leg further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other.

Claim 20 (withdrawn): The double locking mortise joint for table leg to tabletop connections according to claim 19, wherein said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A plurality of four double locking mortise joints for a table having four table legs, each of said legs being independently and separately removable from every other of said legs, and a tabletop having four tabletop edges, each of said joints comprising:

(a) [[a]] one first mortise on each of said legs, said one first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of each of said legs, said one first mortise having:

1. a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of each of said legs;
2. a gusset body having a substantially triangular shape, [[the]] said gusset top serving as one side of [[the]] said triangular shape;
3. a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top, said head bottom is shorter in length than said gusset top;
4. a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of each of said legs and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;
5. a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) [[a]] one second mortise on each of said tabletop edges of said tabletop having:

1. ~~a plurality of~~ two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other;
2. a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;
3. a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

wherein each of said table legs and each of said tabletop edges are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at [[the]] said one first mortise and [[the]] said one second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of said one second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein said first mortise further comprises a first mortise corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and further

wherein said tabletop is supported and stabilized by each of said joints without any further supporting structural members or connections existing below a horizontal plane which lies at a joining of [[the]] said one first mortise and said one second mortise.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The double locking mortise joints according to claim 21, wherein ~~said first mortise further comprises a first mortise corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top,~~ and at least one of said [[two]] first mortise corner[[s]] or said second mortise corner is rounded.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The double locking mortise joints according to claim 21, wherein both of said first [[two]] mortise corner[[s]] and second mortise corner are rounded.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (currently amended): A plurality of four double locking mortise joints for a table having four table legs, each of said legs being independently and separately removable from every other of said legs, and a tabletop having four tabletop edges, each of said joints comprising:

- (a) [[a]] one first mortise on each of said legs, wherein each of said legs has a height dimension longer than both a width and depth dimension of each of said legs combined, and each of said legs further comprises an inner side and an outer side, said inner side and said outer side being substantially parallel to each other, and said inner side and said outer side have a same curvature, said one first mortise being formed generally perpendicularly with respect to an axis of each of said legs, said one first mortise having:
  - 1. a gusset top extending generally perpendicularly outward with respect to said axis of each of said legs;
  - 2. a gusset body having a substantially triangular shape, [[the]] said gusset top

serving as one side of [[the]] said triangular shape;

3. a head bottom opposite to and generally parallel to said gusset top, said head bottom is shorter in length than said gusset top;
4. a first mortise end being generally parallel to said axis of each of said legs and connecting said gusset top and said head bottom;
5. a first contact surface and a second contact surface next to said first mortise end;

(b) [[a]] one second mortise on each of said tabletop edges of said tabletop having:

1. ~~a plurality of~~ two opposing sides being generally parallel to each other;
2. a second mortise end connecting said two opposing sides;
3. a top surface and a bottom surface next to said second mortise end;

wherein each of said table legs and each of said tabletop edges are rigidly and snugly yet removably joined together at [[the]] said one first mortise and [[the]] said one second mortise by fitting said gusset top and said head bottom between said two opposing sides of [[the]] said one second mortise, such that said head bottom extends onto said top surface, said gusset top extends onto said bottom surface, and said two opposing sides extend onto said first contact surface and said second contact surface, and

wherein said first mortise further comprises a first mortise corner and a second mortise corner, said first mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said head bottom, said second mortise corner being located between said first mortise end and said gusset top, and both of said [[two]] first mortise corner[[s]] and said second mortise corner are rounded, and further

wherein said tabletop is supported and stabilized by each of said joints without any further supporting structural members or connections existing below a horizontal plane which lies at a joining of [[the]] said one first mortise and said one second mortise.